

REASONS Humbly Offered by the Inhabitants  
of the City and Liberty of *Westminster*, and of  
Other Places within the Weekly Bills of Mortality,  
to the Knights, Citizens, and Burgessees in this  
Present Parliament Assembled, against the Passing  
of a Bill, Entitled, *An Act for the Enabling of  
Protestant-Strangers to Exercise their Trades in the  
Places in the said Act mentioned.*

1. **I**F this Bill should pass, Aliens would in time Engross all the  
Trade of these Places into their own hands, to the great  
grievance of his Majesties Naturall-born-Subjects.

2. If they come to be once Establisht here by a Law, his  
Majesty cannot then remove them upon any occasion whatsoever.

3. This would give any Neighbouring Nation a great opportu-  
nity of correspondence with them, and so make an Interest in case  
of a War, or of an Invasion, or a Rebellion, and 'tis much feared  
that the late great confluence of Strangers hither, was in Order to no  
good End, for that these People were invired over, and encouraged  
here, by them only that were the Conspirators in the Late Plot,  
and were observed to Crowd the *Lord Russells*, and *Shaftsbury's*  
door; and that that Faction were the only Patrons, is apparent,  
in that *Papillon*, and *Dubois*, both *Whigs*, were the greatest  
Sticklers in this Affair, and both Members of the French-Protes-  
tant-Church, yet took the Sacrament to serve a turn.

4. This would make all Foreigners promote the Sale of For-  
eign Manufacture, in which their Trade will mostly consist, in  
greater measure then now they do, to the decay of our own  
Manufacture, which is your worthy care to preserve.

5. It will discourage English-men from breeding their Children  
to Trades, and consequently the Gentry will want opportunity  
of disposing of their Younger Children.

6. That no English-man of what Religion soever (be he never  
so good an Artificer) is suffered in *Paris*, under the Severest of  
Penalties, *Viz.* Seizing and Loss of his Goods, to Work or Sell  
any, except under a French-man, in the Nature of a Servant.

7. That if by Trading here, they get Money, they Return  
Rich into their Respective Countreys and Purchase Estates there;  
if Poor, they run away, and leave their Children to be maintained  
by the Parish.

*All which is most Humbly Submitted to your Honours Great  
Prudence and Consideration.*

